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**TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE PROVIDES ANALYSIS OF  
APRIL 2003 COLLECTIONS**

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — April 2003 collections of the Tennessee Department of Revenue were \$999,562,637, an increase of \$97,713,692 or 10.8 percent over April 2002 collections.

Sales and use tax collections were \$467,830,246, up \$73,645,505 or 18.7 percent over April 2002 collections. Tax rate increases accounted for more than 85 percent of the increased collections, with \$59,595,322 due to the 1 percent tax increase and \$3,992,620 due to the single article tax. Including tax changes from the 2002 session, the retail trade group was up 18.2 percent over collections from last year. Contributing to the rise were auto dealers and service stations (up 26 percent), building materials stores (up 37.7 percent), miscellaneous retail stores (up 21.5 percent), and eating and drinking places (up 20.8 percent). Sales tax receipts from the services group were up 18.7 percent over collections in April 2002, with business services (up 20.8 percent), auto repair, services and parking (up 20.1 percent), and hotels and lodging places (up 19 percent) accounting for the greatest portion of the rise. The non-retail, non-services group was up 21.3 percent, led by wholesale trade (up 27.1 percent), manufacturing (up 20.9 percent), and communications (up 13.8 percent).

Franchise and excise tax collections were \$283,454,786, up \$41,941,569 or 17.4 percent when compared to April 2002 collections. Separately, the franchise tax collections were \$113,700,465, up \$12,850,161 or 12.7 percent over last year. Excise tax collections were \$169,754,320, an increase of \$29,091,407 or 20.7 percent over April 2002 collections.

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Motor vehicle fuel tax collections increased \$2,448,957 or 23.4 percent from April 2002 levels to a total of \$12,903,997.

Tobacco tax collections were \$9,674,913, surpassing last year's collections by \$2,367,992 or 32.4 percent.

Inheritance, gift and estate tax collections were \$14,804,164, an increase of \$2,239,247 or 17.8 percent over April 2002 collections.

Collections from motor vehicle registrations were \$25,981,398, down \$2,070,827 or 7.4 percent from last year's collections.

Gasoline tax collections were \$42,583,862 in April 2003, down \$1,540,717 or 3.5 percent from April 2002 collections.

The Department of Revenue collects approximately 92 percent of total state tax revenue. During the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the department collected \$7.4 billion in state taxes and fees. In addition to collecting state taxes, more than \$1.4 billion in local sales tax was collected by the department for local governments during the 2001-2002 fiscal year. In addition to collecting taxes, the department enforces the revenue laws fairly and impartially in an effort to encourage voluntary taxpayer compliance. The department also apportions revenue collections for distribution to the various state funds and local units of government. To learn more about the department, log onto [www.Tennessee.gov/revenue](http://www.Tennessee.gov/revenue).

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